

St. Mark's Episcopal School
Middle School Language Arts

September 3, 2012

Dear Parent and/or Guardian:

I am writing to request your consent to allow your child, a student in my **5th Grade Language Arts** class, to share his/her email address with me so that I can create student accounts for the sites listed on the accompanying form (If you prefer, you may share your email address instead.) Student profiles and accounts will be kept private. Only the students, myself, parents, and other educators or administrators we invite will be allowed to view student work online. In some cases, I may share student work with other educators for educational purposes. No student profiles or personal information will be shared, however.

As a class, we will discuss and establish expectations for online communication to ensure that students maintain a respectful, appropriate tone when engaging in online discussions. As we shift some of our lessons online, students will be reminded that all St. Mark's rules and behavioral expectations apply in our digital classroom space just as they would in our physical classroom space.

If you have any questions or feedback about our online learning environments, or the lessons and discussions we will engage in, please feel free to contact me.

Susan Davis
School: 713-667-7030, ext. 214
Cell: 713-702-3465
Email: sdavis@stmes.org

I look forward to collaborating with you on this exciting endeavor as we partner to help your children learn to navigate online spaces in a safe, supported space as they master 21st-century skills critical to their future success.

Sincerely,

Susan Davis
5th/6th Language Arts Teacher

PS. Additional information on the blogging selections for 6th Language Arts is provided on a separate sheet.

**St. Mark's Episcopal School
Online Tools Permission Form
20011-2012**

I, _____ consent to allow _____
(Print Your Name) (Print Your Child's Name)

to participate in the online communities and groups created for educational purposes in

(Print Teacher's Name and Course, or indicate "All Courses")

In particular, these tools and sites will be used in **Ms. Davis's Language Arts** courses
(check "All" or make selections)

_____ [Collaborize](#)

_____ [Diigo for Educators](#)

_____ [Wikispaces for Teachers](#)

_____ [Edublogs](#)

_____ [Flashcard Machine](#) (also used in Spanish)

_____ All of the above

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

St. Mark's Episcopal School
Blogging Permission Form
20011-2012

I, _____ consent to allow _____
(Print Your Name) (Print Your Child's Name)

to use the blogging site(s) selected below as part of the writing program in **Ms. Davis's 6th-Grade Language Arts** course. Please discuss the options below with your child and make the best selection for your particular circumstances. Mark your selection below.

OPTION 1

_____ [Edublogs](#)

Basic blogging. Students will create individual blogs in the "walled garden" of our classroom space, in addition to participating in a shared class blog. Blogs may be accessed only by invitation.

OPTION 2

_____ [Quadblogging](#)

Global blogging in supervised spaces partnering with 3 other classrooms (of similar age students) from around the world. We have been assigned two quadblogging partners from the UK and one from Australia for the fall semester. Partners may change in the spring semester. Monitored by sponsoring teachers. (Note: Quadblogging may require that students accounts in Blogger be made public.)

OPTION 3

_____ [Writer's Club](#)

For advanced and more mature writers, the international [Writer's Club](#) is hosted by Rob Sbaglia at the Castlemaine North Primary School in Victoria, Australia. An international blogging community, this site allows students to choose the writing groups to which they wish to belong, based on their interests. Accounts are set up and maintained by the host teacher. Content is public and loosely monitored by sponsoring teachers.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____